



Welcome to the VIP Initiative

October 2018

An IDEAS –VISN 19 Service and Research Collaborative

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Please welcome Sean Erickson, PMHNP

Sean Erickson is a trained Psychiatric & Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP-BC), University of Utah, MSN, 2013. Prior to joining VA, he was the Behavioral Health Clinical Director with the Fourth Street Clinic, where he served the SLC homeless population focusing on Case Management, Addiction, Mental Health, Community Based Treatment, Outreach, Program Development, Harm Reduction, and Healthcare Management. He has spent the majority of his life in Utah, in St. George and Salt Lake City, but has also spent time in Washington State and Colorado. His personal interests are staying physically active, good nutrition, spending time with family (Meri, Arlo 5yo, Everett 3yo), and having a good laugh.

QUERI TRAINING

Using Implementation Facilitation to Improve Care in the Veterans Health Administration



QUERI Implementation Facilitation Training, VA Little Rock, Arkansas

Dr. Adam Gordon, Nodira Codell, and Ryan Heugly recently attended the Behavioral Health QUERI's implementation facilitation training in North Little Rock Arkansas. Implementation facilitation, supports individuals, groups and organizations in their efforts to adopt and incorporate clinical innovations into routine practices. Implementing evidence-based practices and programs can be challenging, and facilitation, which can incorporate many other implementation strategies, such as audit and feedback, education and training, and stakeholder engagement, has proven successful in supporting implementation efforts. Facilitation has been widely used in many fields (e.g., management, education, social work, community development, mediation, as well as healthcare).

During this training Nodira and Ryan received:

- 1) information and resources to understand the facilitation processes, and
- 2) skills needed to help them to implement clinical innovations for various VA projects

ADDICTION IN THE MEDIA

Listen to Dr. Adam Gordon talk with KUER radio reporter Julia Ritchie about addiction and marijuana:

<http://www.kuer.org/post/could-medical-cannabis-legalization-lead-more-marijuana-addiction-one-u-researcher-says-yes#stream/0>

OCTOBER 2018, VIP CHAT

Please announce to your networks our 30 minute, virtual VIP chat on October 31st, 2018 to discuss: **The case of Spooky Sam – Addressing Medical Marijuana for Patients in Addiction Treatment.** If you have a question you would like addressed, please submit it to Nodira.Codell@va.gov.

For resources, guidances, past newsletters and presentations, visit our VIP SharePoint site: www.tinyurl.com/vip-initiative